

Climate-12 Action Team Convenors meeting #2

October 19th 2023 – 6:30 pm

Susan facilitating, opened with land acknowledgement. Steve took notes.

Here: Susan S., Arlene, Betty, Joan, Susan B., Lorne, Greg, Fay, Deborah Blake, Deb F., Ewout, Steve, Dorothy

Announcements

1. Climate-12 Action now has its own page on the Sustainable Gabriola website:
SustainableGabriola.ca/climate12action/
2. Regenerate Cascadia — bioregional tour with Joe Brewer – Wednesday October 25th at 7 pm at the Surf

We decided to change meeting times to 3 pm on third Thursday (or whatever comes closest to that in availability at the Commons)

Team reports

Health & Well-Being (Deborah B. for Tawny) — visual mapping of all the services available on Gabriola. Susan S. asked if the H&WB group could work on delineation, identification of neighbourhoods. They will work on it.

Water (Joan) — 8 people attended the 1st meeting, 4 others could not. Rainwater harvesting, using less water, grey water, education (developing a water-use manual). Talked about wells and cisterns. Next November 16th at 6:30 at Joan's on Bertha.

Agriculture & Food Security (Betty) — 4 met (some could not make it). Focus is on mentoring gardeners: 12 mentors signed up; organize by neighbourhoods. Someone is working on seed bank. Will ramp up after crops and orchards are in. Susan wants to do a campaign around “eat seasonal” and support local farmers. David Skinner is a liaison with farmers.

Buildings & Energy (Lorne) — Group has not met yet but is emailing, wants to meet soon. Rob has been working on it, including max house size, deep energy house renovation (waiting on energy plan, working on site preparation). Others have talked about limiting max house size (Galiano has a bylaw about house size).

Arts & Culture (Steve) — Met with Lynne Q. An art exhibit event is intended, with some venue for discussion. Arlene and Greg want to be involved.

Biodiversity (Ewout) — Started as a group of 3; some wanted to work on a regional level, others just to focus on Gabriola. Deb F. is willing to help get the group organized. Should support local efforts: reach out to GALTT, ShoreKeepers, StreamKeepers, fire department (FireSmart), etc. Much is happening on Salt Spring.

Economic Change (Fay) — First meeting with 4. Main actions: (1) indicators (measuring things), (2) doughnut economics, (3) other economic forms (e.g. co-ops), (4) Buy Less, Buy Local. Fay met with Jinny Hayes to talk about doughnut economics. Seven people met (incl. couple of younger) to discuss more: buy-less buy-local; indicators (ask each Action Team about their possible Indicators); creating matrices showing effectiveness of results for different actions, and comparing the costs (\$ spent vs ecosystem, community benefit). Next meeting early Nov. Circular economy (turning old things into new); fibreshed group looking to compost discarded wool. Many tweaks possible to OCP.

Transportation (Steve) — 5 met in late Sept. and will meet again next week. We discussed and are working on Ferry Hill foot path; a multi-island approach to getting MoTI and IT to change status of island roads (per 1992 agreement); ride-sharing on a neighbourhood basis. Exploring ideas on “car stops,” hitchhiking zones, co-ops for ebike, truck (happening!).

Greg noted how important the idea of small neighbourhoods seems to be, said he would start looking into current progress.

Next meeting: third Thursday of month: **Thu-16-Nov. at 3:00**, venue will be finalized by steering group [settled on **VIRL library meeting room**].

====